

U.S. Application No.10/076,566

500.41209X00

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A retrieval device in a system having computers and databases connected to one another, comprising:

a retrieval reservation registering unit, said retrieval reservation registering unit registering retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by users;

a ~~duplicate integrating repetition eliminating~~ unit, said ~~duplicate integrating repetition eliminating~~ unit ~~combining duplicates eliminating repetitions~~ of said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests requested in differing said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests in accordance with pre-stored rules to generate an integrated a repetition-free retrieval ~~condition~~ key request to ~~lessen~~ thereby reduce a number of retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests;

a retrieval device unit, said retrieval device unit retrieving information from the databases on the basis of contents of said integrated repetition-free retrieval ~~condition~~ key request ~~integrating said retrieval condition requests~~ to obtain retrieval ~~condition~~ results; and

an output creating unit, said output creating unit creating, on the basis of the retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by the users and said retrieval ~~condition~~

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results, retrieval ~~condition~~ results data to be sent to said users when information is retrieved from said databases.

2. (currently amended) A retrieval device according to Claim 1, wherein in said retrieval reservation registering unit, ~~duplicates~~ repetitions are checked and eliminated in said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests which exist at present and in the past so as to ~~integrate retrieval conditions~~ create the repetition-free key request.

3. (currently amended) A retrieval device according to Claim 2, wherein said retrieval device unit edits said retrieval ~~condition~~ results data ~~[[in]]~~ according to a predetermined format ~~[[by]]~~ that is specific to each user, by checking ~~duplicates~~ repetitions of the retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by users respectively, and sends said edited retrieval ~~condition~~ results data to said users respectively on the basis of retrieval ~~conditions~~ key requests desired by said users, said retrieval ~~condition~~ results data being acquired on the basis of said repetition-free retrieval key request ~~integrated retrieval conditions~~.

4. (currently amended) A retrieval device according to Claim 3, wherein upon editing of said retrieval ~~condition~~ results by user, said retrieval device unit eliminates ~~duplicates~~ repetitions in contents from said retrieval ~~condition~~ results desired by each of said users and ~~integrates said retrieval condition results by each of said users~~ when there are said ~~duplicates~~ repetitions in contents of said retrieval ~~condition~~

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results, so that said retrieval device unit sends the edited ~~[[said]]~~ content-repetition-free retrieval ~~condition~~ results data to said user.

5. (currently amended) A retrieval device according to Claim 2, comprising a method in which at least one previously retrieved result is held in said retrieval reservation registering unit, so that, when a user issues a retrieval ~~condition~~ key request, said user selects on a basis of information freshness desired by the user to acquire a retrieval ~~condition~~ result from said held at least one previously retrieved result among a predetermined time interval or to execute a new retrieval from original data.

6. (currently amended) A retrieval device according to Claim 3, wherein, when there are ~~duplicates~~ repetitions in retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests among users and said ~~retrieval-condition-requests-are-integrated~~ repetitions are eliminated to thereby acquire said retrieval ~~condition~~ results, said retrieval device unit~~[[,]]~~ makes, on the basis of retrieval, copies of said retrieval ~~condition~~ results, integrates ~~duplicates~~ eliminates repetitions in said retrieval ~~condition~~ results by each of the users, and sends thus modified said retrieval ~~condition~~ results to said respective users issuing said requests for said retrieval ~~condition~~ results data.

7. (currently amended) A retrieval device according to Claim 1, wherein said retrieval device unit acquires or sends retrieval ~~condition~~ results in accordance with

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said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests at predetermined intervals of time on the basis of predetermined information freshness.

8. (currently amended) A retrieval method in a system having computers and databases connected to one another, comprising:

registering retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by users;

~~combining duplicates~~ eliminating repetitions of said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests requested in differing said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests in accordance with pre-stored rules to generate an integrated a repetition-free retrieval ~~condition~~ key request to lessen thereby reduce a number of retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests;

retrieving information from databases on the basis of contents of said integrated repetition-free retrieval ~~condition~~ key request ~~integrating said registered retrieval condition requests~~ to obtain retrieval ~~condition~~ results; and

creating, on the basis of said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by users and said retrieval ~~condition~~ results, retrieval ~~condition~~ results data to be sent to said users, and sending said retrieval ~~condition~~ results data to said users when information is retrieved from said databases.

9. (currently amended) A retrieval method in a system having computers and databases connected to one another, comprising:

registering retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by users;

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~~integrating said~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval condition requests key
request by eliminating ~~duplicates repetitions~~ in said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests;

retrieving information from said databases by using said ~~integrated repetition-~~
~~free retrieval condition requests and acquiring~~ key request to acquire retrieval
condition results;

generating ~~duplicates repetitions~~ of retrieval ~~condition~~ results from said
acquired retrieval ~~condition~~ results;

editing said ~~duplicates repetitions~~ of retrieval ~~condition~~ results on the basis of
said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests; and

~~integrating said duplicates of~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval result results
of said ~~retrieval condition~~ by eliminating ~~duplicates repetitions~~ from said retrieval
~~condition~~ results to be sent to each of said users on the basis of similarity between
contents of said retrieval ~~condition~~ results.

10. (currently amended) A retrieval device in a system having computers and
databases connected to one another, comprising:

a retrieval reservation registering unit, said retrieval reservation registering
unit registering retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by users;

a repetition-free retrieval condition requests integrating key request creating
unit, said repetition-free retrieval condition requests integrating key request creating
unit ~~integrating said~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval condition requests key request
by eliminating ~~duplicates repetitions~~ in said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests;

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a retrieval unit, said retrieval unit retrieving information from said databases by using said ~~integrated retrieval condition requests and acquiring~~ repetition-free retrieval key request to acquire retrieval condition results;

a duplicate repetition generating unit, said duplicate repetition generating unit generating duplicates repetitions of retrieval condition results from said acquired retrieval condition results;

a retrieval condition results editing unit, said retrieval condition results editing unit editing said duplicates repetitions of retrieval condition results on the basis of said retrieval condition key requests; and

a ~~retrieval condition results integrating~~ repetition-free retrieval result creating unit, said ~~retrieval condition results integrating~~ repetition-free retrieval result creating unit integrating said duplicates of retrieval condition results creating a repetition-free retrieval result by eliminating duplicates repetitions from said retrieval condition results to be sent to each of said users on the basis of similarity between contents of said retrieval condition results.

11. (currently amended) A retrieval method in a system having computers and databases connected to one another, comprising:

registering retrieval condition key requests issued by users;

~~combining said retrieval condition requests~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval key request by eliminating duplicates repetitions existing in differing said retrieval condition key requests;

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retrieving retrieval ~~condition requests~~ results from said databases by using said ~~integrated retrieval condition requests~~ repetition-free retrieval key request;

generating ~~duplicate~~ repetitive retrieval ~~condition~~ results from said retrieval ~~condition~~ results;

editing ones of said ~~duplicate~~ repetitive retrieval ~~condition~~ results on a basis of said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests; and

~~integrating said duplicate retrieval condition results~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval result by eliminating ~~duplicates~~ repetitions from said repetitive retrieval ~~condition~~ results to be sent to each of said users on a basis of similarity between contents of said retrieval ~~condition~~ results.

12. (currently amended) A retrieval device in a system having computers and databases connected to one another, comprising:

a retrieval reservation registering unit, said retrieval reservation registering unit registering retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by users;

~~a retrieval condition requests integrating~~ repetition-free retrieval key request creating unit, said ~~retrieval condition requests integrating~~ repetition-free retrieval key request creating unit creating a repetition-free retrieval key request ~~combining said retrieval condition requests~~ by eliminating ~~duplicates~~ repetitions existing in differing said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests to produce ~~integrated retrieval condition requests~~;

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a retrieval device unit, said retrieval device unit retrieving retrieval ~~condition~~ results from said databases by using said ~~integrated retrieval condition requests~~ repetition-free retrieval key request;

a ~~duplicate~~ repetitive retrieval result generating unit, said ~~duplicate~~ repetitive retrieval result generating unit generating ~~duplicate~~ repetitive retrieval ~~condition~~ results from retrieval ~~condition~~ results;

a retrieval ~~condition~~ results editing unit, said retrieval ~~condition~~ results editing unit editing said ~~duplicate~~ repetitive retrieval ~~condition~~ results on a basis of said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests; and

a ~~retrieval condition results integrating~~ repetition-free retrieval result creating unit, said ~~retrieval condition results integrating~~ repetition-free retrieval result creating unit ~~integrating said duplicate retrieval condition results~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval result by eliminating ~~duplicates~~ repetitions from said repetitive retrieval ~~condition~~ results to be sent to each of said users on a basis of similarity between contents of said retrieval ~~condition~~ results.